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ning of Japan's international career. (Among these sources are, on the American side, the *Reports of Perry's Expedition to Japan*, the *Narrative of the Expedition of an American Squadron to the China Seas and Japan*, and several articles published since by surviving members of the expedition; and on the Japanese side, the *Kai-koku Ki-gen*, I., and the *Baku-matsu Gwai-koku Kwan-kei Mon-zho*, I., soon to be published). In this *Journal* the memorable incidents of the expedition and the masterful manners of Perry are vividly narrated and freely and frankly commented upon. Even more important would seem the suggestions to which the work, either by omission or through data unconsciously supplied for inference, gives rise in the mind of one who studies with care the complex and still very obscure historical process of the period, in which both Perry and Williams were to a large extent blind actors. If one compares Perry's probable original expectations with his final results, a marked difference between them will be noted. For example, Perry was encouraged by the progress of the negotiations within the three weeks after Captain Adams's conference with the Japanese commissioners at Uraga on February 22, 1854, to demand more favorable terms than he had intended to ask, and was later enabled to secure some of them. On the other hand, he never got a permission for American merchants to trade in Japanese ports, and never realized his desire to visit the capital, to see the "Emperor" (really, the Shogun), or to receive a reply from him to the personal letter President Fillmore had addressed to him, or even to deal with officials equal in rank to himself; Perry was in fact addressed by the Japanese commissioners in inferior terms and even failed to secure their signatures and seals on the treaty in the usual fashion. What made him in the former instance to advance beyond, and in the latter to recede from, his first intentions? On these points Williams's *Journal* does, it would seem—provided it is studied in the light of other sources, especially Japanese—throw some light. These points are merely mentioned here in this brief notice, for a complete solution of these and other problems of the Perry mission is still to come. For such a solution, the present *Journal* must be considered as one of the most important primary sources on the American side.

K. ASAKAWA.

BOOKS OF AMERICAN HISTORY

A Documentary History of American Industrial Society. Edited by JOHN R. COMMONS, ULRICH B. PHILLIPS, EUGENE A. GILMORE, HELEN L. SUMNER, and JOHN B. ANDREWS. Prepared under the auspices of the American Bureau of Industrial Research, with the co-operation of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. With preface by RICHARD T. ELY and introduction by JOHN B. CLARK. Volumes I. and II. *Plantation and*

Frontier. (Cleveland, Ohio: The Arthur H. Clark Company. 1910. Pp. 375; 379.)

THE appearance of this series of volumes is an event of first importance to students of American history and economics. The first volume is opened with a brief sketch by Dr. Ely of the genesis and history of this undertaking of the American Bureau of Industrial Research, the methods employed, and the difficulties encountered. This is followed by a general introduction to the series, by Professor Clark. Each is a valuable aid to a clear comprehension of the purposes and scope of the work now nearing completion.

It is entirely natural that the true inwardness of the history of a section and an institution which have been the storm centre of as bitter controversy as has been waged about the South and slavery, should be difficult to learn. Probably this very fact has helped to render Southern history one of the most attractive fields of present-day exploration. The chief aspects of Southern history which have been thus far developed have been politics and war. The only exceptions which come readily to mind are the works of Mr. Bruce and one or two others. And this notwithstanding the fact that the institution which was the provoking centre of both politics and war was, fundamentally, wholly industrial in character. Having in mind the increasing interest in that phase of Southern history which had to do with the economic side of Southern life, it seems to the writer of this note peculiarly fortunate that this history of American industrial society should begin with the most neglected phase of that history—the industrial organization of the Southern States. American students are doubly fortunate that this part of the undertaking was entrusted to Dr. Phillips.

In an introduction of some thirty pages Dr. Phillips gives an illuminating sketch of the course of economic development in the ante-bellum South which serves as a general interpretation of the documentary extracts which follow. The documents and extracts themselves afford the best insight into the general industrial life of the South as a whole which has thus far been attempted. The editor's own classification of his material (I. 98–102) suggests the breadth and scope of the field which he has included. The period covered is from 1649 to 1863, and the subjects illustrated by the documents are plantation management, plantation routine, plantation descriptions, the place of staple crops in the Southern agricultural system, plantation supplies and factorage, plantation vicissitudes, overseers, indented labor, slave labor, slave-trade, fugitive and stolen slaves, slave conspiracies and crime, negro qualities, free negroes, "poor whites", immigrants, migration, frontier settlement, frontier industry, frontier society, manufacturing, public regulation of industry, artisans, and town labor.

The material in these volumes has been drawn from four principal sources—books, pamphlets and similar ephemeral literature, newspapers, and manuscript records, public and private. The work of selection has

been admirably done. The editor has refrained from running comment on the matter which he has extracted, and, save in his introduction, he has attempted no interpretation of his material. In this course he has probably been bound by the general plan of the series. In any event, those more familiar with Southern history than the average student of these volumes is likely to be, might well wish, for the benefit of the latter, that a more extended discussion of the varying value and significance of the documents had been undertaken. Such an interpretation is no proper part of this review, but it may not be out of place to say that for those who know the South of the present as well as the South of the past this collection excellently illustrates the economic inertia of the plantation system of staple agriculture. The embarrassments of debt, the struggle to meet heavy interest rates, the careless and disastrous uses of credit, the effects of the factorage system, the never-ending complaints of inefficient overseers, the ascribing of all sorts of crop failures to the vicissitudes of the seasons, and also the never-failing hope in the panacea of every Southern planter, a conjunction of good crops and high prices—these are all faithfully portrayed by Dr. Phillips. They are also all features and incidents of the plantation system of to-day, differing in degree of intensity only with differences of local conditions, just as they differed locally in 1770, or 1800, or 1860.

Many of these documents are full of suggestive value, especially to those whose historical rearing, in so far as Southern history is concerned, has been upon the traditional diet of Cairnes, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and *A Cloud of Witnesses*. And equally should they serve as a corrective to much of the "traditional history" of the South, which has made every owner of a few negroes "a large slaveholder" and every ante-bellum grower of cotton a "wealthy planter", and which is responsible for a superlative degree of ignorance of the fundamental unsoundness of the slave-labor system as a foundation for enduring prosperity. Students on both sides of the line should be grateful for the service which Dr. Phillips has rendered the cause of historical truth.

ALFRED HOLT STONE.

The Institutional History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century: an Inquiry into the Religious, Moral, Educational, Legal, Military, and Political Condition of the People, based on Original and Contemporaneous Records. In two volumes. By PHILIP ALEXANDER BRUCE, LL.D. (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1910. Pp. xiii, 707; vi, 697.)

PROBABLY during the last fifteen years no other state of the Union has received such an illumination of its formative period as Virginia. As this colony had a close connection with the British government, the archives of England have been particularly rich in materials for the historian, which in recent years have been made available by the print-